

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

/US2004/023667

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 H01M8/24 H01M8/10

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 H01M

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 863 671 A (SPEAR JR REGINALD G ET AL) 26 January 1999 (1999-01-26) column 9, line 37 - line 60 -----	1-36
A	US 6 127 058 A (LANDRETH BOBBY DEAN ET AL) 3 October 2000 (2000-10-03) the whole document -----	1-36

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

5 November 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

16/11/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
 Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
 Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Koessler, J-L

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
/US2004/023667

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5863671	A	26-01-1999	AU 4193996 A	06-05-1996
			AU 5920596 A	29-11-1996
			CA 2202380 A1	25-04-1996
			CA 2220901 A1	21-11-1996
			CN 1184559 A	10-06-1998
			EP 0783770 A1	16-07-1997
			EP 0832504 A1	01-04-1998
			JP 10507573 T	21-07-1998
			JP 11510637 T	14-09-1999
			WO 9612316 A1	25-04-1996
			WO 9637005 A1	21-11-1996
			US 6051331 A	18-04-2000
			RU 2174728 C2	10-10-2001
			US 5683828 A	04-11-1997
			US 5858567 A	12-01-1999
<hr/>				
US 6127058	A	03-10-2000	AU 1313800 A	22-05-2000
			WO 0026980 A1	11-05-2000
<hr/>				